

Remarks:

This amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to advance this case to issue without delay. The examiner has indicated that the case contains allowable subject matter.

The claims have been heavily amended to overcome the problems that all basically originated in an overly close translation of the underlying German text. No new matter has been added.

Claim 1 has been amended to eliminate the "whereby" clause and positively state that the medium donor is specially adapted for radiation-based doping and eventual reduction into metallic particles. This puts the product-by-process limitations clearly in the composition of the article of manufacture defined in claim 1 and thereby overcomes the art rejection.

Claim 13, which was not rejected on art, has been rewritten along with claims 14-17, 19, and 20 to overcome the formal problems. Thus these claims are allowable outright.

The examiner's statement regarding claims 21-28 that the invention originally always claimed the reflective coating is incorrect. The original German claims of the WO publication and

the filed translated claims recited this reflective layer in claim 11. Admittedly the reflective coating was put in the claims early in the prosecution, but the occasion of refiling provided the opportunity to give broader coverage consideration. That is one of the functions of a Request for Continued Examination.

Thus claims 21-28 were rightfully in the case and should have been examined with the last office action. As no action on the merits has been made on these claims, the next office action cannot be final.

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10 August 2009.
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